



Zero Waste Committee

Report to Town Meeting
2023



ZERO WASTE
ARLINGTON

Single-Use Plastic Water Bottle Ban

- Overwhelmingly (182 votes) passed 2022 ATM
- Our arguments for the ban were:
 - The bottles have a low recycling rate - consumed away from home, no deposit
 - Est more than 700,000 dry 12 oz sold annually in Arlington
 - Thin-walled and break down quickly when littered
 - Arlington's MWRA tap water is a great



Single-Use Plastic Water Bottle Ban

- 700,000 12-oz bottles in 24-case packs have been replaced at Arlington retailers
- Aluminium bottles and cans have replaced plastic water bottles, but in smaller packs
 - Good news for single use plastic waste reduction
 - Still no MA deposit on water
- Water sold in paperboard containers, marketed as eco-friendly is becoming more common



Plastics Reduction Subcommittee

- Arlington On Tap

- Advocating, planning, and implementing water bottle filling stations around town
- Hurd field has first new water filling station!

- No Plastic, *Please*

- Restaurant-goers provided single use plastic items only by request. Win - win
- zerowastearlington.org promotes participating restaurants

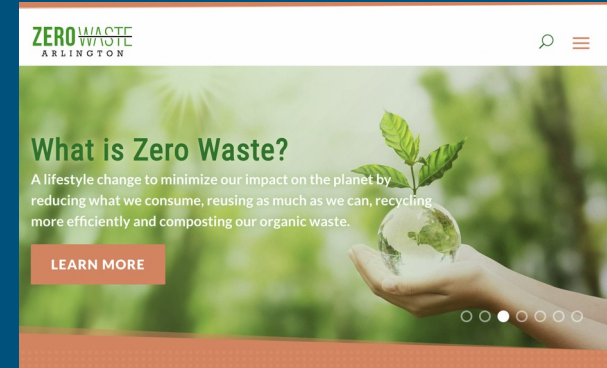


Legislative Subcommittee

- Tracking waste and recycling-related legislation in the State House
- Article 64 - Producer Responsibility resolution to 2023 TM
 - Hope you support it
 - Shifts burden to consumer product manufacturers
- Expanding the MA bottle bill
 - Continues to be defeated at the State House.
 - Would add non-carbonated beverages, wine bottles, energy drinks

Outreach & Education

- Zerowastearlington.org
 - launched July 2022 to compliment our Town web page
 - Over 2000 users browsing
- Social Media
 - Facebook posting
- Webinar series - Earth to Arlington
 - Waste Bans and Food Waste



Solid Waste - household waste reduction

- Textile diverted from waste stream
 - 371,765 lbs through the Bay State Textile program earning Arlington Schools \$18,588
- Solid Waste Hauled
 - 11,302 tons of solid waste and 4,717 tons of recyclables
- Reuse & Recycle Center
 - Very popular along with the newly opened Swap Shed!
 - Processes large plastics, Styrofoam, electronics

Learn More

- Check out our website
- Follow us on Facebook
- Join our email list
- Come to our meetings - 4th Thursday of every month
- We are always looking for volunteers!